

Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 2017

Members of the Alaska State Legislature  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for HB 58 – More Energy Efficient Buildings Act

To Whom It May Concern:

Tanana Chiefs Conference, a non-profit, Tribal consortium representing 42 federally recognized tribes in Alaska's interior would like to express its strong support for the HB 81, The "More Energy Efficient Buildings Act." Tanana Chiefs Conference Strongly believes that the changes as proposed within HB 81 will have significant benefit to our organization, our member tribes and our region as a whole.

For decades rural Alaskan communities have been burdened by some of the highest energy costs in the nation combined with some of the least efficient infrastructure. The highest electric rates in the interior are currently \$1.02/kWh in the community of Takotna and nearly \$10/gal for fuel oil in Arctic Village. These represent energy costs that are anywhere from 5-10 times higher than average heat and electric bills paid by residents in Anchorage. The city of Fairbanks, TCC's base of operations for more than 700 employees and a combined 200,000 sq ft of office and clinic space, has consistently been ranked in the top 5 cities in the nation for highest cost of utility bills. With improved access to funding from the Alaska Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund, TCC, tribal councils and other non-profits will be able to save money on utility bills and put that money toward providing better services to their clients – Alaskan Residents.

Tanana Chiefs Conference has taken an active role in assisting our communities with energy efficiency projects and we look forward to continuing that effort through bills like HB 81 that make this process easier. We full support the goals of HB-81, to expand the list of eligible applicants able to take part in the Alaska Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund. We believe this bill will benefit our tribes, our organization and non-profits across Alaska.

Sincerely,



Dave Messier  
Rural Energy Coordinator  
Tanana Chiefs Conference